



Idaho

Current Developments

April 2003

Message from the State Conservationist

National Volunteer Week is April 27 to May 3. It's a good time to let our Earth Team volunteers know how much we appreciate their work.

Last year, 810 Earth Team volunteers in Idaho contributed 43,527 hours in helping us and our conservation partners. That's the equivalent of employing another 21 full-time employees.

Volunteers are vital members of our conservation team. They allow us to do more or free up time so we can do some things that we might not otherwise get

done. We wouldn't be as good at what we do without volunteers.

During National Volunteer Week, I ask each office to re-evaluate your use of volunteers and your recruiting efforts. Helpful information is available on the Earth Team web site at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/feature/volunteers> or contact Bonnie Long, state volunteer coordinator, Payette.

Thanks to all of you who have recruited Earth Team volunteers and helped them become active members of our conservation team.

Rich Sims
State Conservationist

NRCS receives prestigious leadership award

NRCS has been recognized by the American Society for Public Administration for increasing public access and demonstrating greater financial accountability.

This is the first time ASPA's Center for Accountability and Performance has presented its organizational leadership award to a federal agency.

The award recognizes our new Integrated Accountability System that allows us to collect high quality information, ensures consistency nationwide in the data collected, and makes the information gathered more accessible to those who need it in a timely manner.

"NRCS' new financial system is an example of how we can make government more accountable, which is a key element of the President's management agenda," said Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman. "We are committed to providing good customer service as well as effective and efficient management of all our programs. I am pleased and honored that NRCS is the first federal agency to receive this award."

The President's management reform agenda focuses on five government-wide initiatives: Strategic management of human capital, electronic government, competitive sourcing, improved financial performance, and budget and performance integration.

NRCS participates in drought workshops and funders fairs

Drought workshops

NRCS participated with other state and federal agencies in a series of drought information workshops for farmers and ranchers that were held in March. Senator Larry Craig sponsored the meetings.

NRCSers who presented the latest snow survey and water supply information and discussed assistance available for dealing with drought included District Conservationists Diane Leone, Moscow; Scott Engle, Blackfoot; Mike Combs, Burley; and John Gleim, Caldwell, participated in the meetings. Water Supply Specialist Ron Abramovich, State Office, participated in the Moscow and Caldwell sessions.

Funders fairs

NRCS joined with a host of state and federal agencies in two Funders Fairs conducted at Albion and Idaho Falls in March. The events were sponsored by Congressman Mike Simpson and cosponsored by RC&D Councils.

City, county, and non-profit agency officials attended the sessions which included workshops designed to help them find funding in four basic areas—infrastructure, natural resources and agriculture, small business, arts and humanities. Agency representatives provided information to help those in attendance know how and where to find funds for various projects.

District Conservationist Mike Combs, Burley, represented NRCS at the Albion meeting, and District Conservationist Dennis Hadley, Idaho Falls, at the Idaho Falls session.

Soil scientists in the news

By David Hoover, State Soil Scientist

Positions filled

We've recently filled two vacant soil scientist positions in Idaho—an assistant state soil scientist and a resource soil scientist.

Rod Kyar is our new assistant state soil scientist. He was previously soil survey project leader at Soda Springs. Before that, he worked for NRCS in Minnesota.

He will supervise the three resource soil scientist and will lead efforts in the state on soil investigations, soil quality, and application of soils information in the Field Office Technical Guide and Customer Service Toolkit.

Leah Juarros is the new resource soil scientist in Meridian. She will serve Divisions 3 and 4 in technical soil services.

Prior to coming to Idaho, Leah ran the soil lab at the University of Guam and worked on NRI for the Pacific Basin. Before that, she worked as forest soil

scientist for the Boise National Forest and as a soil scientist on the Klamath National Forest. She has also worked as an NRCS soil scientist in California, Utah, and Washington.

Soil scientists meet in Pendleton

Idaho NRCS and State Soil Conservation Commission soil scientists met with Oregon and Washington soil scientists at a tri-state session in late February. Over 60 soil scientists attended the meeting, including those from other state agencies, Bureau of Land Management, and Forest Service.

Topics covered included review of technical notes, mapping, and digitizing procedures, NASIS database, soil survey management, and new technological developments.

Several NRCS scientists were presenters, sharing information, procedures, and ideas. New methods of soil mapping in remote areas were discussed, including computer modeling of landscapes and soil features to an 80-percent accuracy level with on-ground field observations.

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Richard W. Sims, State Conservationist

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NRCS initiates competitive sourcing process

NRCS recently rolled out the national competitive sourcing process--one of the President's Management Initiatives designed to reduce operating costs and improve services to the public. CS will open commercial functions currently performed by the Federal government to competition with the private sector.

Training has been provided to all states where competitive sourcing representatives will be studying mail and supply, clerical, soil conservation, technical service, and soil mapping functions.

On the national level, studies will be conducted on geological analysis, civil engineer, technical service, and cartography functions at the National Cartographic and Geospatial Center in Fort Worth.

For more information, visit the NRCS outsourcing website at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/feature/natcompsource/index.html>.

SCIMS

The Service Center Information Management System (SCIMS) is currently being implemented in Idaho. It is a consolidated customer information database for USDA Service Centers.

Employees have received training on how to enter and edit data in the SCIMS database and are currently helping customers by recording customer information in SCIMS. Customers must first be registered in SCIMS before registering for a WebCAAF login and

password. A WebCAAF login and password must be obtained in order to register in TechReg, which is the first e-Gov application to make direct use of the system.

Additional NRCS applications using SCIMS will be released soon.

A refresher PowerPoint training presentation that covers the WebREG, WebCAAF and SCIMS process (SCIMS and WebCAAF Refresher) is available at <http://www.info.usda.gov/egovtraining/>.

This issue's dirty pictures

Threebear is Idaho's State Soil. It was chosen to represent the highly productive timber-producing soils of the state, as well as the influence of volcanic ash on the productivity of Idaho's soils. It was showcased as Soil of the Month for March in the 2003 Soil Planner.

The Threebear series consists of moderately well drained soils formed in silty sediments with a thick mantle of volcanic ash. These soils are moderately deep to a fragipan and are on hills with slopes of 5 to 35 percent.

Threebear soils are used mainly for timber production and wildlife habitat. The potential natural vegetation is western redcedar, grand fir, Douglas fir, western larch, and western white pine. The average annual precipitation is about 36 inches, and the average annual temperature is about 42 degrees F.



Threebear soil profile. The name "Threebear" is derived from a creek in Latah County.

Women's conference a big success

**By Patti Hurley, Federal Women's
Program Manager, Twin Falls**

There were challenges to our Idaho Women's Conference...pre-war anxiety, competitive sourcing rumors, heavy workloads, and general uncertainty about the conference itself.

Yet, the conference was a success. The 50 plus participants rose to the occasion and became involved in the conference sessions with positive attitudes and professionalism.



State Conservationist Rich Sims opened the conference with a discussion on competitive sourcing, the first in-depth information many of us had received. And if that didn't set off the jitters! There is nothing

like looking the problem in the face, however, and getting things out in the open.

Sharon Nance, NRCS Rural Sociologist (currently assigned to the Strategic Planner in the West Regional Office as a Soil Conservationist), followed. With a stroke of genius, she reminded us that change is a fact of life and should be looked at as an opportunity.

One of our big goals was to discuss recruitment, retention and professional growth for women in the NRCS workforce and make recommendations for improvement to management.

With hiring freezes in place, recruitment became a minor issue. In the breakout session, groups discussed either retention or advancement issues. They came up with some innovative recommendations. Networking, mentoring, early problem identification, and resolution were emphasized. The report is still being written and will be made available soon to the state conservationist and the Idaho Civil Rights Committee.

Estella Williams, NRCS National Civil Rights Manager on the staff at Fort Worth, Texas, opened the second half-day of the conference with information on the mediation and alternative dispute resolution process.

The ADR program offers a new way for resolving conflict and is available to employees, customers, and partners for disputes outside of the established dispute resolution systems. It is also available within the grievance, appeals, and Equal Employment Opportunity complaint processes. For more information, check out this link: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/intranet/ADR/index.html>

The conference concluded with a panel discussion on strategies for career success. Continuing education, finding a mentor inside or outside the agency, and work details were the common threads from the three panelists--Sharon Nance, Estella Williams, and our very own Susan Tharp.

All of this—and more—was accomplished in a noon-to-noon format with breaks and inspirational five-minute videos. It was fun! My only regret was that I didn't get to visit with everyone for as long as I wished.

Success can be defined in terms of excellent presentations, exchanging information, making new friends, catching up with old friends, making a difference, and coming away inspired. Thanks again to all participants for helping to make this conference a success!

At the local level

Gondek and NRCS featured in local newspaper

Mike Gondek, district conservationist, Bonners Ferry, was the subject of an impressive and very complimentary (to both Mike and NRCS) newspaper article in the Bonners Ferry Herald on Mar. 20.

R.J. Cohn, staff writer, described Mike and NRCS as “one of the busiest and most tireless agencies in Boundary County. It’s remarkable Gondek isn’t worn out trying to accomplish even half of what’s on his plate. Whether a landowner is trying to develop an acre or a 1,200-acre spread, the district conservationist...is loaded with answers, ideas and suggestions for enhancing the natural beauty and resources of a piece of property.”

Mike’s response—“I try to be (as) sensitive as possible to landowners’ needs while working within nationally mandated rules and regulations. That’s where the big challenge comes in—making everything work for everybody involved.”

We’re proud of you, Mike!

Adams SCD, Council

It’s not often we see a newspaper article that says the local conservation district is seeking interested ranchers who would like to have a conservation plan prepared for their operation. The article appeared in the Mar. 13 issue of the Adams County Record at Council.

Ferrell Crossley, chair of the Adams SCD, says the district has funds they can use to hire consultants to prepare the plans. It’s a good, proactive approach!

Tom Yankey is district conservationist, Weiser.

Nez Perce SWCD, Lewiston

Nez Perce SWCD recently received two grants from the Bonneville Power Administration to work in the Big Canyon and Lapwai Creek watersheds.

Work will focus on improving salmonid spawning and rearing habitat.

The District conducted four public information meetings in the watershed to provide information to landowners.

Lynn Rasmussen is district conservationist, Lewiston.

Squaw Creek SCD, Emmett

The Squaw Creek SCD conducted an information meeting for farmers and local irrigation districts on April 8 concerning the Fish and Wildlife service proposed designation of critical habitat for the Columbia population of bull trout. The area identified in Gem County is Squaw Creek starting at the Black Canyon Reservoir going up to the headwaters. It was cosponsored by .

The meeting was cosponsored by the West Central Highlands RC&D Area, Emmett. Levi Montoya is district conservationist, Emmett.

Gem SWCD, Emmett

The latest issue of the Gem SWCD newsletter included an article that encouraged farmers and ranchers who want to participate in USDA cost share programs to visit their office and begin work on a conservation plan.

“Here’s what we offer,” the article said—engineering services; advice and direction on nutrient pest and irrigation water management; help planing pasture and rang management; peace of mind towards compliance with environmental regulations from people who respect and understand the importance of your operation; and financial assistance.

Levi Montoya is district conservationist, Emmett.

Lewis SCD, Nez Perce

The Lewis SCD is taking applications from farmers, ranchers, business organizations and concerned citizens who are interested in being part of a local group to assist in establishing priorities, give guidance on resource issues, and provide input on cost share rates and funding sources.

“Local involvement and direction from the community will enhance the Lewis Conservation District’s efforts in treating resource problems,” said a Mar. 27 newspaper article in the Lewis County Herald.

Rob Fredericksen is district conservationist, Nezperce.

At the local level (continued)

State's first revolving loan fund project nearing completion

Completion of the Preston Mink Creek Canal lateral project in Franklin County is nearly completion and will be ready to deliver water by the first of May.

The project is the first in the state to be funded through the State Revolving Loan Fund Program. The program, administered by the Idaho Soil Conservation Commission, provides low interest rate loans to applicants with approved projects.

The project involved converting an earth-lined, open canal to a pressurized underground pipeline that will deliver irrigation water to about 35 farms covering 2,850 acres.

Almost eight miles of pipe were installed, ranging in size from 36 to 12 inches in diameter. The system will save about a third of the irrigation water that was previously lost to seepage.

Bruce Sandoval, agricultural engineer, Pocatello, provided construction inspection services. The pipeline was installed using NRCS standards and specifications.

Boyd Bradford is district conservationist, Preston.

Salmon project receives national recognition

The Upper Salmon Basin watershed project at Salmon received the "Conservation Project of the Year" award at the 68th annual North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference held in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, in March.

Watershed Project Office Coordinator Katie Slavin and award nominator Jude Trapani traveled to the conference to receive the award from Kathleen Clark, director of the Bureau of Land Management, and Dale Bosworth, chief of the Forest Service.

The Upper Salmon Basin Watershed Project was established in 1992 as part of the Northwest Power Planning Council's Strategy for Salmon, a comprehensive plan for rebuilding salmon runs in the Columbia River Basin. Then-Governor Cecil Andrus assigned the Idaho Soil Conservation Commission as the lead agency.

Initially, the Lemhi River, Pahsimeroi River, and the East Fork of the Salmon River in Custer and Lemhi Counties were designated as the project areas. In 2002, boundaries were enlarged to include the entire Upper Salmon Basin from the Middle Fork of the Salmon, upstream to its headwaters in the Stanley Basin.

Slavin has served with the project as office coordinator since 1993. Trapani has been actively involved on the project's advisory committee and technical team. He also piloted the project as coordinator in 1997.



Local farmers are rejoicing over completion of the Mink Creek Canal project because they will no longer have to work around the canal that split both their fields and farms.

How time flies...25 years ago

By Sharon Norris
Public Affairs Specialist

When we discovered a 1978 edition of our Idaho Personnel Directory last month, I couldn't help but flip through it. Names of the 209 employees listed brought back many memories.

Out of curiosity, I decided to count how many of those employees were still here in Idaho and found there were only 20.

In 1978, the State Office had 51 employees (currently 37). Today, only four of those employees remain—Sue Ellis, staff assistant; Judy Schoonover, human resources officer; Mariann Whitworth, budget analyst; and me.

Sixteen of the employees listed in area and field offices and the PMC are still in the state. Most, but not all, have changed positions and locations. A couple of them left Idaho for a few years but couldn't stay away.

- Bob Bartholomew was range conservationist, Weiser. He is now assistant state conservationist for programs, Boise SO.
- Lloyd Bradshaw was district conservationist, Weiser. He is now district conservationist, Rexburg.
- Brent Cornforth was gardener, Aberdeen PMC. He is now biological science technician at the PMC.
- Clay Erickson was soil conservation aid (part-time), American Falls. He is now civil engineering technician, Pocatello.
- Ralph Fisher was resource conservationist, Boise Area Office. He is now state agronomist, Boise SO.
- Ron Gill was soil conservationist, Lewiston. He is now biologist, Pocatello.
- Dennis Hadley was district conservationist, Aberdeen. He is now district conservationist, Idaho Falls.
- Ken Hasfurther was civil engineer, Pocatello Area Office. He is now civil engineer, Gooding.
- Gene Koozer was civil engineer, Burley. He is now computer system analyst, Boise SO.

- Bob Lehman was—and still is—civil engineer, Rexburg.
- Fred Manwaring was—and still is—soil conservation technician, Blackfoot.
- Russ Manwaring was district conservationist, Emmett. He is now RC&D Coordinator, Emmett.
- Art Shoemaker was area engineer, Boise Area Office. He is now State Conservation Engineer, Boise SO.
- Steve Smart was soil conservationist, St. Anthony. He is now RC&D coordinator, Rexburg.
- Dave Steube was soil conservation technician, St. Anthony. He retired April 4, 2003, at civil engineering technician at Burley.
- Tom Yankey was soil conservationist, Fairfield. He is now district conservationist, Weiser.

Among the 209 employees listed in the directory were 4 future state conservationists:

- Jim Habiger, who was area conservationist, Boise, became STC in Kansas.
- Sherm Lewis, who was assistant state conservationist for operations, became STC in Massachusetts.
- Skip Nelson, who was assistant state conservation engineer in the State Office, is currently STC for Utah.
- Russ Collett, who was district conservationist at St. Maries, is now STC for Maine.

I e-mailed a copy of this article to Russ Collett, thinking he might like to take a trip down memory lane too. Russ replied,

“I can't tell you how great it was to spend a few minutes catching up on the whereabouts (and replaying old memories) of friends and colleagues. I envision that all of you look and act just like you did when we were all together.”

Of course, we do!

Steube retires... leaves his signature on the land

By Sharon Norris, Public Affairs Specialist

Selling conservation isn't an easy task for many of us—we have to work hard at it and even then don't achieve the best results. But we've all known a few co-workers who excelled at it. Dave Steube is one of them.

"Dave is one of the best salesman for conservation I've ever known," said Lloyd Bradshaw, district conservationist, Rexburg. "He has a talent for working with producers. People he's worked with **believe** in conservation, and their strong beliefs continue through the years."

Dave retired from NRCS as a civil engineering technician on April 4, 2003. During his 30-year career as a conservationist in Idaho, he worked in 17 conservation districts and four field offices. He leaves a proud legacy of conservation that is visible on the landscape from Burley to the eastern side of the state.

Dave grew up on a farm in Minidoka County and attended school at Rupert. After graduating from high school, he did a semester of college at Idaho State University, Pocatello. He joined the Marine Corps in 1965.

After completing basic training, Dave was shipped to Viet Nam, where he served two tours of duty. He was seriously wounded at Caisson, leaving him with a dam-

aged hip and back.

When Dave returned home, he went back to ISU where he completed a two-year crops and soils technology program. He found employment with the Minidoka, West Cassia, East Cassia, Twin Falls, and Snake River Soil Conservation Districts and the Soil Conservation Service as a WAE (when actually employed).

In May 1976, Dave started work for SCS as a full time soil conservation aid at Burley. In 1977, SCS offered him a position at St. Anthony. There he worked with farmers to rebuild their farms as a result of damage by the Teton Flood that had occurred in June 1976.

He was involved in one of the most intensive reclamation projects in Idaho's history. Extensive land damage and alteration required significant changes in farm operations. Irrigation systems had to be rebuilt.

In 1982, Dave accepted a reassignment to Idaho Falls where he worked with farmers to implement the Upper and Lower Sand Creek Watershed projects. He also worked with projects under the State Agricultural Water Quality Program.

Dennis Hadley, district conservationist, Idaho Falls, said Dave did an excellent job of working with a group of farmers on a project to relieve flooding problems.

"Eight landowners wouldn't be

in business today without that project," said Dennis. "Those producers still ask about Dave and want to know how he's doing."

"We were also very busy doing dryland work—building terraces and sediment basins," said Dennis. "One year, Dave and I laid out about 160,000 feet of terraces. The East and West Side Conservation Districts appreciated Dave's good work."

In 1986, Dave accepted a reassignment to Rexburg. By this time, he had finished the required number of soils courses to qualify as a soil conservationist. But as acting district conservationist he was faced with launching the 1985 Farm Bill, including FSA (Food Security Act) plans and the Conservation Reserve Program. That was enough to convince him he preferred his job as a technician.

District Conservationist Lloyd Bradshaw said Dave and Bob Lehman, area engineer, planned and designed the 40-mile long Hooley Springs gravity livestock water system.

"It's probably one of the largest systems in the state on private land," said Lloyd.

As Dave worked with the ranchers, he told them they had to protect birds by putting bird walks above the troughs. One producer went the extra mile by installing a bird walk complete with a miniature life preserver.

"Dave was a good friend, neighbor and coworker," said Bob.

"Farmers who worked with Dave knew their projects, including the pluses and minuses. He's been instrumental in getting the footwork done on many projects and getting things started.

"During the time we were so busy building terraces, Dave would get on the tractor with a farmer to show him how they would work and how to farm them with his equipment."

In June 1994, Dave once again accepted a reassignment as civil engineering technician at Burley. There he worked with the field office staff on the Snake River Plain Water Quality Demonstration Project.

Dave's most current project involved working with a local landowner to plan a 2.5-mile windbreak along the Interstate near Burley to control blowing dust and snow.

"Dave is very professional and extremely hard working," said Mike Combs, district conservationist, Burley. He's conscientious and completes every job he starts. We'll never be able to replace him."

Among Dave's proudest accomplishments is the work he did to help rebuild farmland damaged by the Teton Flood.

Some of his favorite memories of the years he worked with NRCS will be "all the people I've worked with—fantastic district conservationists, old area office staffs.

"I've had a good life and worked with some of the best. As a technician, I've worked with all types of landowners—farmers and ranchers, urban people, contractors, flood control districts—some of the best in the country. I've been to Georgia, Illinois and California to work on Emergency Watershed Protection Program details. Every place I've been, including training experiences in Texas and San Luis Obispo, the whole NRCS family has just been a fantastic experience."

Dave says the time has come to say goodbye to the sagebrush and lava rock of southern Idaho. He and his wife Diane are moving to the 40 acres of woodland they purchased several years ago near the town of Priest River. The property, Dave says, contains eight varieties of trees and seven springs. It is teaming with wildlife, including wild turkeys, elk and white tail deer.

He and Diane plan to start work on building a log home, and he's already got a slip rented at a local marina for his 22-foot boat. Fishing is on his agenda. And both Dave and Diana are looking forward to visits by their four daughters and eight grandchildren. His oldest grandchild is 18 and plans to join the Marine Corps just as his grandpa did.

Dave's parting words—"Best of luck to everyone in the NRCS family."

2003 SWCS conference to be held in Spokane

The Soil and Water Conservation Society's annual meeting will be held July 26-31, 2003, at the Spokane Convention Center.

What a great opportunity for all of us in Washington, Oregon and Idaho to have a national conservation conference available in the Pacific Northwest.

The conference provides many training opportunities and continuing education credits from professional organizations. Conservation tours will focus on resource issues in the Columbia Basin.

A key benefit of the conference is the networking opportunities with specialists from across the country.

Have you thought about helping the Inland Empire Chapter by volunteering before or during the conference? The Local Arrangements Committee has been working for more than two years on planning, but help is still needed to make this a successful conference. If you are interested in volunteering, contact one of the co-chairs--Larry Cooke at 509-323-2964 or Dennis Roe at 509-335-3491.

To find out more about the conference and to register, go to the SWCS National web site at www.swcs.org

Veseth seriously injured in accident

Many of us know and have worked with Roger Veseth of the University of Idaho, Moscow. We are sorry to report he was in a sledding accident near his home on Mar. 8. It resulted in breaking the fifth vertebra in his neck and serious injury to his spinal column.

According to the latest report, he is off a respirator and has some feeling in the toes on one foot.

Cards may be sent to Roger and his wife Claire at 1540 Mill Road, Moscow 83843.

Safety and Health How and when to use a fire extinguisher

By Bill Patterson, State Safety Officer

Most fires start small. Except for explosions, fires can usually be brought under control—if they are attacked correctly with the right type and size of extinguisher within the first two minutes. Keep in mind that fire extinguishers:

- * Are intended as first aid devices and for use on small fires
- * Have a limited amount of agent
- * Have a limited effective range and discharge time

Four basic types

- * Class A: Extinguishes ordinary combustibles such as wood, cloth, paper, rubber and many plastics
- * Class B: Extinguishes flammable liquids such as gasoline, oil, grease, tar, oil-based paint, lacquer and flammable gas
- * Class C: Extinguishes energized electrical equipment including wiring, fuel boxes, circuit breakers, machinery and appliances
- * Class D: Extinguishes flammable metals; often specific for the types of metal in question

Many household fire extinguishers are multipurpose A, B, or C models. If you're ever faced with a Class A fire and you don't have an extinguisher with an A symbol, don't hesitate to use one with the B:C symbols.

Warning: It's dangerous to use water or an extinguisher labeled only for Class A on a grease or electrical fire.

Installation and maintenance

Install extinguishers in plain view above the reach of children near an escape route and away from stoves and heating appliances.

Extinguishers require routine care. Service rechargeable models after every use. Disposal fire extinguishers can be used only once. Following the manufacturer's instructions, check the pressure in your extinguishers once a month.

Operation

Even though extinguishers come in a number of shapes and sizes, they all operate in a similar way:

PASS—Pull, Aim, Squeeze and Sweep.

- * Pull the pin at the top of the extinguisher that keeps the handle from being accidentally pressed.
- * Aim the nozzle toward the base of the fire.
- * Stand about 8 feet away from the fire and squeeze the handle to discharge the extinguisher. If you release the handle, the discharge will stop.
- * Sweep the nozzle from side to side until the fire appears to be out. Watch the fire carefully since it may re-ignite.

When not to fight a fire

If you have the slightest doubt about whether or not to fight a fire—DON'T! Get out and close the door behind you.

If any of these conditions exist, leave immediately:

- * If the fire could block your only exit
- * If the fire is spreading too quickly
- * If the type or size of the extinguisher is wrong
- * If the fire is too large
- * If you don't know how to use your extinguisher